PLANT FACT SHEET

Diploglottis cunninghamii (Hook.) Hook.f.

GENUS *Diploglottis* **FAMILY** Sapindaceae

COMMON NAMES Native tamarind

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: seeds - aril

The fruit are edible but sour. The jelly like aril is chewed or used for drinks or jam. They can be cooked with fish and chicken.
They can be used for jams, chutneys, sauces and cocktails.

DESCRIPTION

A large shrub or small tree. It can grow 8-20 m high. It spreads 2-6 m wide. The trunk is fluted at the base. The bark is grey. The young shoots are angular. They are covered with velvety brown hairs. Young leaves are broad and papery. The leaves are 30-80 cm long. The mature leaves are divided into leaflets along the stalk. There are 8-12 leaflets which are 10-30 cm long by 2-6 cm wide and oval or sword shaped. They have velvety hairs underneath. The flowers are in a large panicle at the ends of branches. The flowers are 0.4 cm across. They have 2-3 lobes. The flowers are yellow-brown. The fruit contain 3 large seeds. These are surrounded by a fleshy orange aril which is edible. The fruit are 1-2 cm wide.

HABITAT

It grows in the rainforest. It grows in warm temperate regions but can grow in the tropics. It needs well drained soil and light shade. It suits hardiness zones 8-11.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown from seed. Seed need to be sown fresh. Seeds germinate in 1-2 weeks.

NOTES

There are 8 Diploglottis species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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